

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SOURCE: Traci Winscot (308) 698-2228



TOPIC: Forever Forest Coming to Kearney Area Children's Museum

Kearney Area Children's Museum Hosting a New Traveling Exhibit!

Kearney, NE- *Forever Forest*, an interactive exhibit explaining the forest's connection with children's everyday lives, opens Friday, May 11th at the Kearney Area Children's Museum. A ribbon cutting for members-only will take place Thursday, May 10th at 4:30 pm. The exhibit will run through Sunday, June 24th. The national tour of *Forever Forest* is presented by Union Pacific Foundation and supported by the North American Wholesale Lumber Association.

The 2,000-square-foot *Forever Forest* exhibition is designed to teach children and adults how their everyday lives are connected to forests, through the ways they live, work and play. It is the result of an official partnership with the Hardwood Forest Foundation and Omaha Children's Museum established to help transform the educational kit, *The Truth About Trees*, into an immersive and engaging learning experience. *Forever Forest* includes areas focused on forest life and sustainable harvesting; lumber transportation; and products made from wood. Exhibit pieces include a kid-size replica of a Union Pacific engine and railcar to show how products move across the country; mini grapple skidders; a pretend saw mill; microscopes; and a miniature home under construction in which children can help finish by adding siding, molding and other details.

"What a wonderful opportunity to share the importance of S.T.E.A.M. learning in a fun way at our museum," said Traci Winscot, Executive Director of Kearney Area Children's Museum. By creating an exhibit about trees that introduces S.T.E.A.M. (or science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics) to young children in a way where they can see and touch things, the learning experience is enriched. These experiences can teach skills that are critical for everything from reading to researching. Critical thinking is one of the executive brain functions that this exhibit has been designed to assist in developing. The others are: Taking on challenges, perspective taking, self-control, self-directed engaged learning, communicating, and making connections. "We'd love to have you visit the museum during these next six weeks to check out this amazing exhibit! We are very thankful to the Nebraska Environmental Trust for allowing this exhibit to be at our location this summer," said Traci Winscot.

For more information contact the Kearney Area Children's Museum at (308) 698-2228.

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Mission

The Kearney Area Children's Museum inspires play, exploration, and discovery through interactive experiences.



May 11
through
June 24, 2018



KEARNEY AREA
**children's
museum**

